

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- Amended*
1. A method for reporting hardware platform errors, said method comprising:
- storing error data corresponding to each hardware platform error in a storage area, wherein the error data includes a flag indicating whether the error data has been reported; and
- reporting the error data.
2. The method as described in claim 1 further comprising: receiving a request from one of the partitions; providing the error data to the requesting partition; and
- setting the flags included in one or more of the provided error data indicating that at least one partition has been notified of the error.
3. The method as described in claim 1 wherein the error data is stored in an error buffer.
4. The method as described in claim 1 further comprising: receiving the error data at one of the partitions; and determining whether the errors included in the error data have previously been reported to at least one partition, the determination including analyzing the flag corresponding to each error.
5. The method as described in claim 4 further comprising: transmitting one or more errors included in the error data in response to the determination being that

*Sub A2*  
4  
5 the one or more errors have not previously been reported.

1 6. The method as described in claim 4 further comprising:  
2 highlighting one or more errors included in the error  
3 data in response to the determination that the  
4 one or more errors have not previously been  
5 reported; and  
6 displaying the highlighted errors on a display device.

1 7. The method as described in claim 1 further comprising:  
2 receiving the hardware platform error from a component  
3 included in the hardware platform;  
4 setting the flag corresponding to the hardware  
5 platform error to indicate that the error has not  
6 been provided to at least one of the partitions;  
7 determining an error identifier that corresponds to  
8 the error; and  
9 writing the error identifier and the corresponding  
10 flag to an error buffer.

1 8. An information handling system comprising:  
2 one or more processors;  
3 a memory accessible by the processors;  
4 one or more nonvolatile storage devices accessible by  
5 the processors, the nonvolatile storage devices  
6 including one or more system partitions;  
7 an error buffer for storing errors detected in the  
8 information handling system; and  
9 a error handling tool to manage the detected errors,  
10 the error handling tool including:  
11 means for identifying one or more errors corresponding  
12 to the information handling system; and

*13*  
*14*  
*15*  
*16*  
*17*

means for including error data for each of the errors  
in the error buffer, wherein the error data  
includes a flag corresponding to each error  
indicating whether at least one system partition  
has been notified of the error.

*1* 9. The information handling system as described in claim  
*2* 8 further comprising:

*3* means for receiving a request from one of the system  
*4* partitions;

*5* means for providing the error data to the requesting  
*6* system partition; and

*7* means for setting the flags in the error buffer  
*8* corresponding to one or more of the errors  
*9* indicating that at least one system partition has  
*10* been notified of the errors.

*1* 10. The information handling system as described in claim  
*2* 8 further comprising:

*3* means for receiving the error data at one of the  
*4* system partitions; and

*5* means for determining whether the errors included in  
*6* the error data have previously been reported to  
*7* at least one system partition, the determining  
*8* including analyzing the flag corresponding to  
*9* each error.

*1* 11. The information handling system as described in claim  
*2* 10 further comprising:

*3* a network interface for transmitting information to a  
*4* second computer system; and

*5* means for transmitting one or more errors included in  
*6* the error data to the second computer using the

Sub A3

network interface, the transmitting performed in response to determining that the one or more errors have not previously been reported to at least one system partition.

12. The information handling system as described in claim 10 further comprising:

a display device accessible by the processors;  
means for highlighting one or more errors included in the error data in response to determining that the one or more errors have not previously been reported to at least one system partition; and  
means for displaying the highlighted errors on a display device.

13. The information handling system as described in claim 8 further comprising:

one or more components accessible by the processors;  
means for receiving the error from one of the components;  
means for setting the flag corresponding to the error to indicate that the error has not been provided to at least one of the system partitions;  
means for determining an error identifier that corresponds to the error; and  
means for writing the error identifier and the corresponding flag to the error buffer.

14. A computer program product for providing hardware platform errors, said computer program product comprising:  
means for identifying one or more errors corresponding to the hardware platform; and

6 means for including error data for each of the errors  
7 in a storage area, wherein the error data  
8 includes a flag corresponding to each error  
9 indicating whether at least one partition has  
10 been notified of the error.

1 15. The computer program product as described in claim 14  
2 further comprising:

3 means for receiving a request from one of the  
4 partitions;

5 means for providing the error data to the requesting  
6 partition; and

7 means for setting the flags corresponding to one or  
8 more of the errors indicating that at least one  
9 partition has been notified of the errors.

1 16. The computer program product as described in claim 14  
2 wherein the error data is stored in an error buffer:

1 17. The computer program product as described in claim 14  
2 further comprising:

3 means for receiving the error data at one of the  
4 partitions; and

5 means for determining whether the errors included in  
6 the error data have previously been reported to  
7 at least one partition, the determining including  
8 analyzing the flag corresponding to each error.

1 18. The computer program product as described in claim 17  
2 further comprising:

3 means for transmitting one or more errors included in  
4 the error data in response to the determining

*Sub A3*

6 that the one or more errors have not previously  
been reported.

1 19. The computer program product as described in claim 17  
2 further comprising:  
3 means for highlighting one or more errors included in  
4 the error data in response to the determining  
5 that the one or more errors have not previously  
6 been reported; and  
7 means for displaying the highlighted errors on a  
8 display device.

1 20. The computer program product as described in claim 14  
2 further comprising:  
3 means for receiving the error from a component  
4 included in the hardware platform;  
5 means for setting the flag corresponding to the error  
6 to indicate that the error has not been provided  
7 to at least one of the partitions;  
8 means for determining an error identifier that  
9 corresponds to the error; and  
10 means for writing the error identifier and the  
11 corresponding flag to an error buffer.